AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 18, 21, and 22, and cancel claims 1-17, 19 and 25, as set forth in the listing of claims that follows:

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catalyst, the method comprising:

reacting a titanium salt with an alcohol to form a titanium alkoxide;

reacting a zirconium salt with an alcohol to form a zirconium alkoxide;

mixing the titanium alkoxide and the zirconium alkoxide to form an organometallic precursor;

~~forming an organometallic precursor comprising zirconium and titanium by the etherification of an alcohol; and~~

decomposing the organometallic precursor to form ~~catalyst comprising a precious metal and~~ a solid solution characterized by a zirconium-titanium oxide; and

adding a precious metal to the solid solution to form the catalyst.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the solid solution further comprises yttrium and lanthanum.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 18 ~~20~~, wherein forming the organometallic precursor further comprises:

reacting a yttrium salt with an alcohol to form a yttrium alkoxide;

reacting a lanthanum salt with an alcohol to form a lanthanum alkoxide; and

mixing the titanium alkoxide, the zirconium alkoxide, lanthanum alkoxide, and yttrium alkoxide to form the organometallic precursor.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 18, wherein decomposing the organometallic precursor to form a solid solution further comprises adding water to the organometallic precursor.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the organometallic precursor further comprises methacrylic acid.

24. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the organometallic precursor comprises $Zr_2Ti_4O_4[OCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3][OC(O)CH_3CH_2]_{10}$.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original)The method of Claim 18, wherein the organometallic precursor comprises a precious metal precursor.

27. (Original)The method of Claim 18, further comprising heat treating the catalyst to a temperature of greater than or equal to about 700°C.